**2014 APA Idaho Awards Program**

APA Idaho is pleased to announce the opening of its 2014 Awards Program nominations. This Program provides APA Idaho with the opportunity to recognize outstanding planning projects and outstanding individuals engaged in planning in the State of Idaho.

The Awards Program is open to Idaho organizations and agencies, professional planners, citizen planners, elected officials, and appointed officials (such as planning commissioners). Idaho APA highlights the award-winning projects during the annual conferences as shining examples of how to plan in Idaho. In reviewing submissions, the APA Idaho Awards Committee looks for innovation, quality, and the potential to transfer similar projects to other areas. We welcome and look forward to receiving your nominations!

**Award Categories**

**Outstanding Plan Award**

This award honors a written plan that advances the science and art of planning or brings awareness of the benefits of good planning. The award seeks to recognize excellence in planning for livable and sustainable communities with public engagement and realistic goals. Eligible nominations encompass plans of many types, including but not limited to: comprehensive, strategic, transportation, energy, environment, economic development, urban design, tourism, rural, cultural/historic, neighborhood, or tribal planning.

**Planning Tool or Implementation Award**

This award honors a specific planning tool, practice, program, project, process, or effort that has accomplished positive changes. This award emphasizes innovation, transferability, and results that can be measured over long-term. Nominated projects must have been in use for a minimum of one year. Eligible projects and tools may include ordinances, design or growth management guidelines, public-private partnerships, applications of technology, citizen participation tools, farmland preservation, rural development, resource conservation, capital improvements, transportation management, public health improvements, or sustained economic development.

**Public Outreach Award**

This award honors a plan, project or process that meaningfully engaged the public through information, consultation, coordination, collaboration and/or empowerment means.  Nominated work should highlight innovation or extraordinary effort in encouraging inclusive public participation in planning efforts. Consideration will be given to how available funds were used or leveraged to conduct the public involvement effort.

**Leadership Award**

This award recognizes an individual or group who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and commitment to good planning and “making great communities happen” through service to their community, region, or the state.  Community volunteers, advocates, elected and appointed officials, and journalists make valuable contributions every day to the long-term success of their communities and the implementation of good plans. Planning professionals are not eligible for this award.

**Student Project Award**

This award recognizes exceptional unpaid academic work by a student or group of students in an undergraduate or graduate planning or planning-related (e.g. public policy, architecture) program. Nominations shall include a project or paper, graded or supervised by a professor, for academic purposes. The work should embody good planning practice and/or applied research in planning. It is intended that this award will inspire other students and young planners to strive for excellence in their work. Verification of student status is required.

**The Gem Award**

This award recognizes planning achievement and/or leadership in the topic chosen as the theme for the annual chapter conference. For 2014 the theme for the conference, and topic for the Gem Award, is “Building Better Partnerships.” Nominations for this year’s award will demonstrate innovation, perseverance, and outreach in forging better partnerships for the success and resilience of Idaho communities. Individuals, groups/organizations, projects, and partnerships are eligible for the 2014 *Gem Award for Building Better Partnerships*.

**Alignment with APA National Award Categories**

The following table shows how APA Idaho Chapter Awards may align with APA national award categories. While it is not a requirement for national award nominations to have won or been nominated for a chapter award, the Board and Awards Committee hope that an APA Idaho award winner or nominee will be nominated for a national award.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **APA Idaho** | **APA National** |
| Outstanding Plan Award | Daniel Burnham Award for a Comprehensive Plan  Transportation Planning  Environmental Planning  Urban Design  Economic Planning and Development |
| Planning Tool or Implementation Award | Best Practice  Implementation |
| Public Outreach Award | Public Outreach  Communications Initiative |
| Leadership Award | Planning Advocate |
| Student Project Award | AICP Student Project Award |
| Gem Award | (Varies) |

**Award Program Details**

APA Idaho Chapter Award nominations will be evaluated on their innovation, transferability, comprehensiveness, and other award-specific criteria. The content of the plan or project, the processes used, and leadership demonstrated are of primary importance. The visual quality of the document itself is a factor, but layout and graphics are less significant than the overall quality of the plan and effort. Both large and small communities and other planning entities are encouraged to apply. The APA Idaho Awards will be presented at the APA Idaho annual conference in Boise on October 9, 2014.

Nominations will be evaluated for the award category in which they are submitted. However, the Awards Committee may, upon majority vote and upon warrant, move a nomination to a different category. Only one Award may be granted per category. Awards may not be granted for every category if the Awards Committee finds that none of the nominations in a particular category meet the desired standards. Self-nominations are welcome!

Only plans or planning projects for an Idaho locale[[1]](#footnote-1) will be eligible for consideration. For the Planning Excellence Award for Implementation, only plans or projects completed within the last ten (10) years are eligible for consideration. For all other award categories, only plans or projects completed within the last two (2) years are eligible.

**Nomination content**

Nomination packets must include the following (which are set forth on the following pages):

**Section 1**: Application form

**Section 2**: A one-page summary of the submission, including the setting; time frame; significance to the planning field; and innovations in theory, methodology, and/or practice

**Section 3**: A brief discussion demonstrating how the project meets the criteria for the award category (3-page maximum)

**Attachments**:

1. The written plan or project report, or other documentation;
2. At least four graphics or images (.jpg format) that illustrate the planning area or project being submitted. (If images are not applicable, please explain.)

This year we will be accepting electronic submissions of nomination packets. See Section 1.

**Deadline: 5:00 PM Mountain Daylight Time on Friday, August 15, 2014**.

Incomplete applications or those not received by the deadline cannot be considered.

**Section 1**

2014 APA Idaho Awards Nomination Form

(fillable form)

I nominate

(entity, person, or project) for a 2014 APA Idaho Award in the following category (indicate one):

Outstanding Plan Award

Planning Tool or Implementation Award

Public Outreach Award

Leadership Award

Student Project Award

The Gem Award

Contact person for the submission:

Name

Organization

Address

City       State       Zip Code

Phone       Fax

E-mail

Nominations for the 2014 APA Idaho Awards Program must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time on Friday, August 15, 2014. *Self-nominations are welcome*.

This year we will be accepting electronic submissions of nomination packets. If you wish to submit a nomination packet, please email Co-Chairs Kathy Grotto or Ellen Campfield Nelson at [kgrotto@co.blaine.id.us](mailto:kgrotto@co.blaine.id.us) or [ellen@agnewbeck.com](mailto:ellen@agnewbeck.com) to obtain a link to a private Dropbox folder or alternate submittal instructions. A complete nomination packet must be received no later than **5:00 PM Mountain Daylight Time on Friday, August 15, 2014 (no exceptions)**.

**Section 2**

One page summary of the submission, including the setting; time frame; significance to the planning field; and innovations in theory, methodology, and/or practice.

**Section 3**

A brief discussion demonstrating how the project meets the criteria for the award category. (3-page maximum)

*Respond to the appropriate list of criteria on the following pages.*

**Outstanding Plan Award**

This award honors a written plan that advances the science and art of planning or brings awareness of the benefits of good planning. The award seeks to recognize excellence in planning for livable and sustainable communities with public engagement and realistic goals. Eligible nominations encompass plans of many types, including but not limited to: comprehensive, strategic, transportation, energy, environment, economic development, urban design, tourism, rural, cultural/historic, neighborhood, or tribal planning.

* *Originality / Innovation* – Does the entry present an original concept or refinement of an existing technique or procedure? Is there a visionary approach or innovative concept to address the needs of the community served? Does the planning process broaden accepted planning principles within the context of the specific situation?
* *Transferability* – Does the entry illustrate potential application for other areas of Idaho or to other planning projects? Do the components and methodology of the project/plan further the cause of good planning?
* *Quality* –Does the entry represent excellence of thought, analysis, writing and graphics throughout the plan, regardless of budgetary limitations? Were available resources used in a thoughtful and ethical manner? Have accepted planning principles been observed/integrated throughout the entire plan or project?
* *Comprehensiveness* – Does the entry address the critical and necessary issues to achieve the stated purpose of the plan?
* *Public Participation* – Were multiple public interests involved and incorporated? Does the submission explain the extent of that involvement? Competitive entries demonstrate a strong effort to solicit input from stakeholders who historically have been left out of the planning process. Does the entry show how the plan achieved this objective?
* *Implementation Strategy* – Have steps been taken to build momentum and public support for implementing the plan? Are there specific, targeted objectives that address how to move plan goals and objectives from vision to reality?
* *Effectiveness and Results* – Does the entry address the need or problem that prompted its initiation? Does it convey the level of effectiveness the plan/project can have over time?
* *Integration –* If applicable, has the entry been integrated into other planning efforts such as a corresponding comprehensive or master plan or other related initiatives? Does the entry consider how the project/plan interfaces with other public objectives and the surrounding environment? Does the plan support the overall planning goals of the neighborhood or community? Does it complement relevant plans of neighboring or overlapping jurisdictions (state-tribe-county-district-city)?

**Planning Tool or Implementation Award**

This award honors a specific planning tool, practice, program, project, process, or effort that has accomplished positive changes. This award emphasizes innovation, transferability, and results that can be measured over long-term. Nominated projects must have been in use for a minimum of one year.

Eligible projects and tools may include ordinances, design or growth management guidelines, public-private partnerships, applications of technology, citizen participation tools, farmland preservation, rural development, resource conservation, capital improvements, transportation management, public health improvements, or sustained economic development.

* *Originality / Innovation* – Does the entry present a creative or refined solution of an existing technique or procedure? Is there a visionary approach or innovative concept to address the needs of the community served? Does the entry broaden accepted planning principles?
* *Transferability* – Does the entry illustrate potential application to other areas or other planning or implementation projects? Do the components and methodology of the tool/project further the cause of good planning?
* *Quality* – Does the entry represent excellence of thought, analysis, writing, and graphics throughout the tool or project, regardless of budgetary limitations? Were available resources used in a thoughtful and ethical manner?
* *Comprehensiveness* – Have accepted planning principles been integrated throughout the entire tool or project? Does the tool/project consider how the tool/project interfaces with other public objectives? Does the entry address the critical and necessary issues to achieve the stated purpose of the tool/project?
* *Public Participation* – Were multiple public interests involved and their ideas incorporated? Does the submission detail the extent of that involvement? Has an effort to solicit input from those who historically have been left out of the planning process improved its implementation? Does the entry detail how the tool/project achieved this objective?
* *Effectiveness and Results* – How long has the tool/program been in effect? Does the tool/project address the need or problem that prompted its initiation? What are the specific examples of the positive changes that have resulted from the implementation of this project or use of this tool? Is there a high level of effectiveness the tool/ project can have over time? Are there long-term measurable results in demonstrating that sustained implementation makes a difference?

**Public Outreach Award**

This award honors a plan, project or process that meaningfully engaged the public through information, consultation, coordination, collaboration and/or empowerment means.  Nominated work should highlight innovation or extraordinary effort in encouraging inclusive public participation in planning efforts. Consideration will be given to how available funds were used or leveraged to conduct the public involvement effort.

* *Originality / Innovation* – How did the entry engage audiences in planning using innovative or unique communication approaches? Does the entry use new ideas or combine tools to address a demonstrated need for planning information or education within the community? Is there a visionary approach or innovative concept for reaching the public to best address the needs of the community served?
* *Transferability* – Does the entry illustrate potential application for other areas of Idaho or to other planning projects? Do the components and methodology of the entry further the cause of good planning?
* *Quality* – Does the entry represent excellence of thought, analysis, and reporting of the results of public engagement throughout the plan, project or process, regardless of budgetary limitations? Were available resources used to engage the public in a thoughtful and ethical manner?
* *Public Participation* – Were multiple public interests involved and incorporated? Does the submission explain the extent of that involvement? Competitive entries demonstrate a strong effort to solicit input from stakeholders who historically have been left out of the planning process. Does the entry show how the plan achieved this objective?
* *Effectiveness and Results* –Does the entry convey the level of effectiveness the plan, project, or process has had or will have over time as a result of strong public outreach?? Did the public outreach build long-term interest that will increase public involvement in future planning activities?
* *Support of Planning and Planners –* Has the entry built support for planning and increased awareness and understanding of planners and the planning process? Describe why this effort was undertaken and the desired outcomes.

**Leadership Award**

This award recognizes an individual or group who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and commitment to good planning and “making great communities happen” through service to their community, region, or the state.  Community volunteers, advocates, elected and appointed officials, and journalists make valuable contributions every day to the long-term success of their communities and the implementation of good plans. Planning professionals are not eligible for this award.

* *Originality / Innovation* – Has the nominee demonstrated a visionary approach or innovative concept to address the needs of the community served? Has the nominee broadened accepted planning principles within the community?
* *Comprehensiveness* – Has the nominee observed/integrated accepted planning principles throughout his/her service? Does the nominee display an understanding of planning within the context of other public objectives?
* *Public Participation* – Has the nominee involved and incorporated multiple public interests? Does the submission explain the extent of that involvement? Competitive entries demonstrate a leader who has made a strong effort to solicit input from stakeholders who historically have been left out of the planning process. Does the entry show how the nominee achieved this objective?
* *Effectiveness and Results* – Has the nominee been effective in formulating and implementing plans and ideas in support of good planning? What is the level of influence and effectiveness achieved by the nominee within different segments of the community?
* *Support of Planning and Planners* – How has the nominee’s work increased the understanding of the planning process? Has the nominee shown a clear understanding of, and support for, the role of planners in public life?

**Student Project Award**

This award recognizes exceptional unpaid academic work by a student or group of students in an undergraduate or graduate planning or planning-related (e.g. public policy, architecture) program. Nominations shall include a project or paper, graded or supervised by a professor, for academic purposes. The work should embody good planning practice and/or applied research in planning. It is intended that this award will inspire other students and young planners to strive for excellence in their work. Verification of student status is required.

       *Originality / Innovation* – Does the project/paper present an original concept or refinement of an existing technique or procedure? Was there a visionary approach or innovative concept used?

       *Contribution or Transferability* – Does the project/paper illustrate potential application for other planning professionals in Idaho, communities in Idaho or to other planning projects? Do the components and methodology of the project/paper further the cause of good planning in Idaho?

       *Quality* – Does the entry represent excellence of thought, analysis, writing and graphics throughout the project/paper?

* *Comprehensiveness* – Have accepted planning principles been observed and integrated throughout the entire project/paper? Does the project/paper support other public objectives and/or the surrounding environment?

       *Effectiveness and Results* – Does the project/paper address the need or problem that initiated the work? What is the level of effectiveness the project/paper designed will have over time? Are there measurable results that demonstrate its effectiveness?

**The Gem Award**

This award recognizes planning achievement and/or leadership in the topic chosen as the theme for the annual chapter conference. For 2014 the theme for the conference, and topic for the Gem Award, is “Building Better Partnerships.” Nominations for this year’s award will demonstrate innovation, perseverance, and outreach in forging better partnerships for the success and resilience of Idaho communities. Individuals, groups/organizations, projects, and partnerships are eligible for the 2014 *Gem Award for Building Better Partnerships*.

* *Originality / Innovation* – Does the entry present an original concept or unique approach to building partnerships? Is there a visionary approach or innovative concept to address the needs of the community or agencies served through this partnership?
* *Transferability* – Does the entry illustrate potential application for building partnerships in other areas of Idaho or among other types of jurisdictions or groups for the benefit of planning projects? Does the partnership further the cause of good planning?
* *Outreach* – Were multiple public interests involved and incorporated in the partnership? Does the submission explain the extent of that involvement? Does the partnership involve or solicit input from stakeholders who historically have been left out of the planning process. Does the entry show how the plan achieved this objective?
* *Implementation Strategy* – Does the partnership have specific, targeted objectives that address how to move their goals and objectives from vision to reality? What tool does the partnership use to implement those objectives?
* *Effectiveness and Results* – Does the partnership address the need or problem that prompted its formation? Will the partnership make a difference in the lives of the people affected over time?
* *Education* – Has the partnership influenced public awareness about planning issues and/or the planning process? Does the partnership’s success result in increased awareness in the community of planners and planning?

1. Student Projects may involve locales outside the state. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)